Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the claims that were published in the PCT Application and annexed to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability:

- 1. (currently amended) Method for detecting the orientation of a set of images, said set of images containing subset of images, each image in a subset of images representing at least one similar object characterized in that wherein it comprises the steps of:
- choosing a reference image in each subset of image from among the set of images,
- detecting the orientation of the images of each subset as a function of the orientation of the said reference image.
- 2. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein it comprises a step of calculating the visual distance (D) between the reference image and the said image.
- 3. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 2, characterized in that wherein it comprises a step of calculating the visual distance (D) between
- the said image and the reference image,
- the said image and the reference image having undergone a rotation of 90 degrees,
- the said image and the reference image having undergone a rotation of 180 degrees,
- the said image and the reference image having undergone a rotation of 270 degrees.

- 4. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 3, eharacterized in that wherein it comprises a step of determining a subimage in the reference image and a subimage in the said image, the calculation of the visual distance (D) between the said image and the reference image being performed on the respective subimages.
- 5. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 4, characterized in that wherein the said subimages have the same relative size with respect to the image in which each is positioned.
- 6. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 4, characterized in that wherein the said subimages are centred with respect to the image in which they are positioned.
- 7. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 4, characterized in that wherein the said subimages are positioned in such a way that the visual distance between the said subimages are minimal.
- 8. (currently amended) Method according to <u>claim 1</u> any one of the preceding elaims, <u>characterized in that wherein</u> it furthermore comprises a step of selecting the said reference image as a function of the distance between this reference image and the target image.
- 9. (currently amended) Device for detecting the orientation of a set of images, said set of images containing subset of images, each image in a subset of images representing at least one similar object of an image in a set of images, characterized in that wherein it comprises the steps of:
- choosing a reference image in each subset of image from among the set of images,
- detecting the orientation of the images of each subset said image as a function of the orientation of the said reference image.